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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/076,494	02/19/2002	Takeshi Konno	0505-0963P	2007

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EXAMINER

RIOS CUEVAS, ROBERTO JOSE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2836

DATE MAILED: 08/05/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/076,494

Applicant(s)

KONNO

Examiner

Roberto J Rios

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 December 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the uppermost portion of said vehicle being a mirror (claim 5) must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 6, 9 and 17 objected to because of the following informalities:

As per claims 6 and 9, it is not clear if the lock mechanism include all the claimed mechanisms or at least one of them.

Claim 17 is objected to because it includes reference characters which are not enclosed within parentheses (control circuit C). See MPEP § 608.01(m).

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Umeda et al (JP 03-295777) in view of Yoshida et al (US patent 5,124,565).

As per claims 1-5, 7, Umeda et al (herein after Umeda) teach a remote alarm system for a cabinless, light vehicle having a vehicle body, said apparatus comprising: a locking system; a portable infrared transmitter (8); an infrared receiver (9) being capable of receiving an infrared signal emitted from said infrared transmitter, wherein said infrared receiver consists of a single receiver disposed in a portion of the vehicle body; a lock actuator being capable of locking and unlocking at least one lock mechanism being incorporated in the vehicle body; and a control apparatus for controlling an operation of an alarm system based on the infrared signal received by said infrared receiver. Umeda does not specifically teach the remote transmitter controlling the lock system. However, Yoshida et al teach a remote lock system for a cabinless, light vehicle comprising a windshield extending from a vehicle body; a remote transmitter for remotely controlling a lock system of said vehicle.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Umeda with the teachings of Yoshida such that the remote transmitter remotely control the locking system of the vehicle in order to improve ease of operation of the lock system and completing an engine starting operation in a shorter period of time.

Umeda teaches disposing the infrared receiver in a portion of the vehicle body but does not specifically disclose the receiver being disposed along an uppermost portion of the vehicle body, such as a windshield or a mirror. However, it is well known on the art to provide a direct line-of-sight between an IR transmitter and a receiver.

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Umeda such that the IR receiver is positioned along an uppermost portion of the vehicle body for the purpose of avoiding possible signal obstruction.

As per claim 6, Umeda and Yoshida teach the lock mechanism comprising a handle lock mechanism.

As per claim 8, Yoshida teaches said control apparatus including an electronic control circuit.

As per claim 9, Umeda and Yoshida teach the lock mechanism comprising a handle lock mechanism.

As per claims 10 and 11, Yoshida teaches a plurality of operation wires extending from the locking mechanisms; and said lock actuator consisting of a single electrically driven lock actuator for locking and unlocking said locking mechanisms and connected to said operation wires (Figures 8-10; col. 7, line 38+).

As per claims 12, 13 and 15, Yoshida teaches said transmitter (18) including an operation switch operable for inputting locking or unlocking signals, and a signal transmission section capable of transmitting a signal corresponding to a particular ID code in response to an operation input for the switch (col. 4, line 37; col. 5, line 52).

As per claim 14, Yoshida teaches said electronic control circuit including a signal discrimination section having a CPU and a memory (Figure 10).

As per claim 16, Yoshida teaches the signal discrimination section including an ID verification section for verifying and discriminating if a signal received by the receiver is valid by verifying that the particular ID code of the received signal coincides with a

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particular ID code stored in advance in the ID verification section (Figure 10; col. 8, line 10+).


As per claim 17, Yoshida teaches a first energization circuit for supplying power for a battery (125) to the electronic control circuit (106) and a relay circuit (110) having a main switch and a main relay connected to the electronic control circuit, wherein the relay circuit opens or closes a second energization circuit (Figure 10).

As per claim 18, Umeda teaches said infrared receiver consisting of a single infrared receiver (9).

5. Art of general nature has been cited for applicant's review.

Communication with PTO

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Roberto Rios whose telephone number is (703) 306-5518. In the event that Examiner Rios cannot be reached, his supervisor, Brian Sircus may be contacted at (703) 308-3119. The fax number for Before-Final communications is (703) 872-9318, for After-Final communications is (703) 872-9319, and for Customer Service is (703) 872-9317.



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